

# ***ANGLER GUIDE***

## **FISHING PROSPECTS FOR THE NODAWAY RIVER IN MISSOURI**

The lower eleven miles of the Nodaway River are the most popular for fishing. However, there are about 50 miles of river above this area in Missouri, not counting several small streams that empty into the mainstem Nodaway River, that are fishable. This upper area is often overlooked but can have good fishing too. Fishing in the Nodaway River can be very good for channel catfish and common carp. Other fish that may be caught in the river are flathead catfish, blue catfish, bullhead catfish, sunfish, sauger, and freshwater drum.

Channel  
Catfish



Common  
Carp



One popular method for catching channel catfish is to float or wade using a long pole (up to 15') and line baited with a minnow, worm, or stinkbait. The line usually has a weight attached to the end of it with a hook tied 6-8 inches above it. Any structure you find in the water (rootwads, rocks, bridge pilings, etc.) can and usually does harbor a catfish or two. The bait is placed into the water near these obstructions. If catfish are present they usually let you know in the form of a "bite" very quickly. If nothing happens in a couple of minutes it is time to move to the next piece of cover. Action can be fast and furious in the warmer months of the year.

Common carp are tremendous fighters when encountered on a fishing pole. Places to fish for carp would be in deeper holes wherever you can find them (around rocks, bridge pilings, etc.). A small treble hook covered with dough bait, whole kernel canned corn, or worms fished on the bottom can result in a close encounter with carp. A simple dough bait that will work is soft bread that is kneaded to make it more dense or the soft center from a cooked biscuit. There are many recipes for making dough baits. Ingredients range from cornmeal and breakfast cereals to flavored soda's and Jell-O. If you want to try and make your own dough bait start at the local library. There are many books on fishing that have sections covering carp fishing. Usually the carp fishing section will have one or two basic dough ball recipes with a list of additional ingredients that can be added to change flavor, odor, and consistency.